



Quinte
CONSERVATION
clean world. safe homes. healthy life.

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 16, 2022

QUINTE CONSERVATION ISSUES A WATER SAFETY STATEMENT DUE TO LARGE AMOUNTS OF RAIN EXPECTED THROUGHOUT THE REGION

Local weather forecasts are predicting 40-50 mm of mixed precipitation, including rain changing to snow, throughout the Quinte Conservation Watershed Wednesday night and throughout Thursday. Creeks, streams, and rivers will rise rapidly in response to rain and runoff in areas with low snow coverage.

Runoff from rain and snow melt will create a quick rise in water levels on creeks and rivers; however, they are not forecasted to top over their banks at this time.

Nuisance flooding is likely around small watercourses, urban areas, and ditches. Large river systems and inland lakes are not expected to flood at this time.

Ice conditions are expected to deteriorate during this period. With the anticipation of quickly rising lake levels, ice cover may become unstable. Ice surfaces are expected to become covered with slush and subsequent re-freezing may make ice fishing structures difficult to remove in the future. The public is advised to stay away from open and fast flowing water, culverts, dams, ice covered water, and banks for the duration of this weather event.

Residents are reminded to make sure their sump pumps are in good working condition and to help reduce ponding by keeping ditches, culverts, and storm drains clear from obstructions.

Staff will continue to monitor conditions. For current water levels or to report changes in water levels, residents are encouraged to visit QuinteConservation.ca.

A WATER SAFETY STATEMENT indicates that high flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for users such as anglers, boaters, swimmers, children or pets. Flooding is not expected.

This message will be in effect until (or updated before) February 22, 2022

Quinte Conservation is a community-based environmental protection agency. It serves 18 municipalities in the watersheds of the Moira, Napanee and Salmon Rivers and Prince Edward County. It provides cost-effective environmental expertise and leadership. Quinte Conservation's main goal is to create a sustainable ecosystem where people and nature live in harmony. More information about Quinte Conservation is available at www.quinteconservation.ca.

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NEWSROOMS PLEASE NOTE QUINTE CONSERVATION ISSUES DIFFERENT TYPES OF MESSAGES DEPENDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THE SITUATION. PLEASE SEE BELOW:

WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT: This is a general notice of potential flooding or other conditions that pose a safety risk. There are two kinds of statements:

- a WATER SAFETY STATEMENT indicates that high flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for users such as anglers, boaters, swimmers, children or pets. Flooding is not expected.
- a FLOOD OUTLOOK STATEMENT gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions that could lead to high runoff, cause ice jams, lakeshore flooding or erosion.

FLOOD WATCH: This level notifies that the potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.

FLOOD WARNING: Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities and individuals should take action to deal with flood conditions. This may include road closures and evacuations.